

Second Maryland Infantry



A Historical Overview



“IN RESERVE”

Artist: Rick Reeves

Second Maryland Infantry

1862-1865

The Origins

Maryland Militia



Pre War Service



Maryland Militia

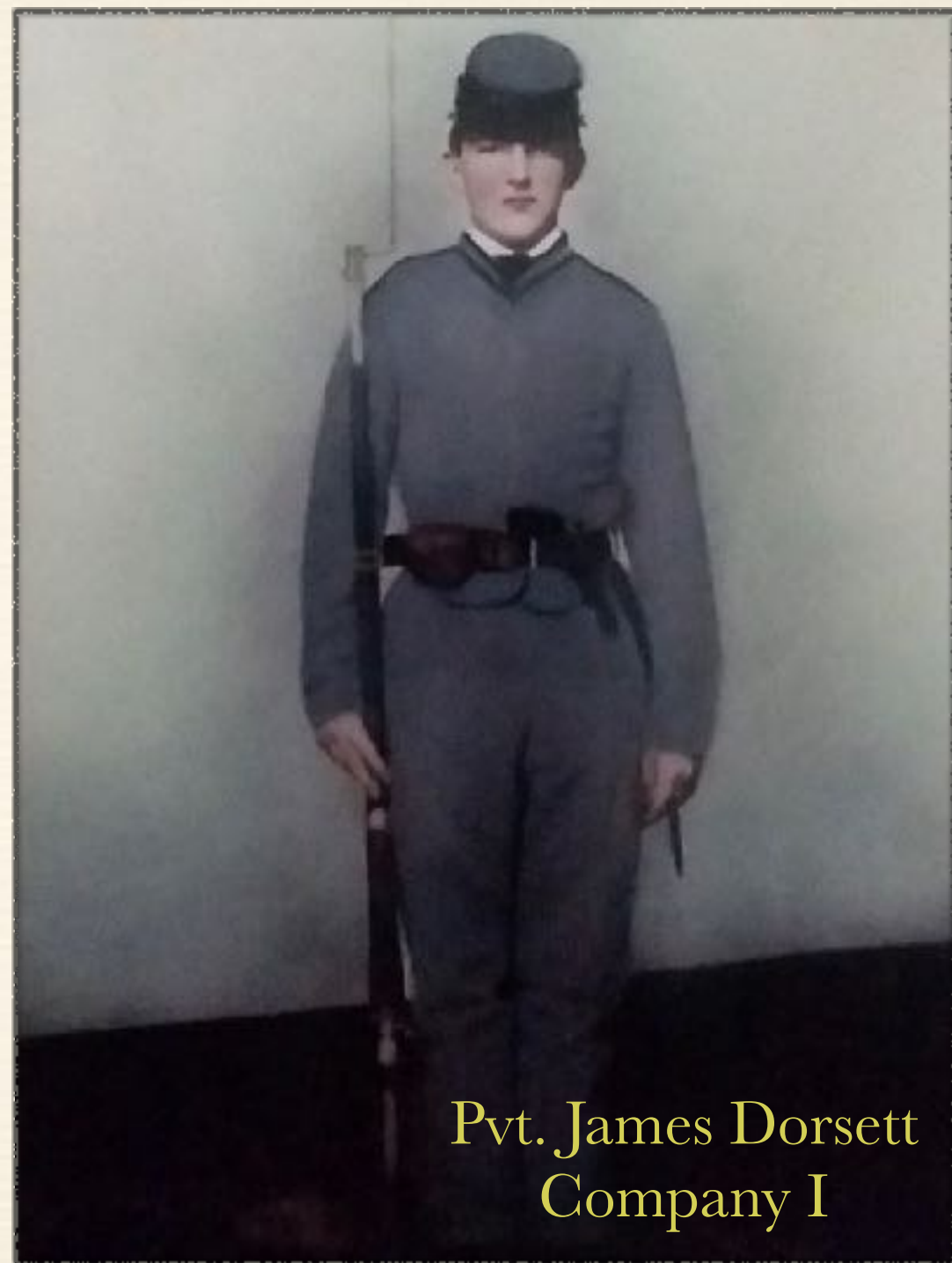
One cannot truly understand the history of the 2nd Maryland Infantry without knowing the origins of which it evolved from. Many members previously served in the Maryland Militia. One such Militia Unit was the 53rd Maryland Infantry Regiment. The 53rd was a pre-war unit that was one of the best trained and drilled organizations in the country at that time. Its motto "Decus et Prsesidium", Latin for "A Honor and A Guard". The unit disbanded shortly after the Baltimore Riot of 1861 and Lincoln's Martial Law set upon the state. Most of the men of the 53rd were "pro South" which in turn had many of its members heading south to enlist in the Confederate Army. Some of those men formed the core of the 1st Maryland Infantry Regiment and later formed the 2nd Maryland Infantry. Capt. Herbert, Captain. Murray, Lt. McKim, Lt. Booth, Lt. Howard to name a few, all were former members of the 53rd Maryland.



First Maryland Infantry Regiment



1861-1862



Pvt. James Dorsett
Company I

1st Maryland Infantry Regt.

After the Baltimore Riots, Abraham Lincoln declared martial law in Maryland and sent Federal Troops to occupy the state. Thousands of “Pro South” Marylanders (est. 25,000-30,000) headed to Virginia to enlist in various units in the Confederate Army. Even though Maryland never seceded, some wanted to form their own unit as they felt it was necessary to have the state represented within the Army. The 1st Maryland Infantry Regiment was officially formed (mustered) on June 16, 1861. The regiment was made up of volunteers from Maryland who many served pre-war in Maryland State Militias. The regiment saw action at the battles of First Manassas, Gen. “Stonewall” Jackson’s Valley Campaign, and in the Peninsular Campaign (Seven Days Battles). It was officially mustered out of service in August 1862, as the members initial 1 year service expired. Knowing that they were unable to return to Union-occupied Maryland, some of the men re-enlisted in various Maryland Artillery or Cavalry units that were in service. The men that were left went on to form the nucleus of a new Maryland Infantry unit being formed, the 1st Maryland Infantry Battalion (later re-named the 2nd Maryland Infantry).



1st Maryland Colonels that became Generals



Maj. Gen Arnold Elzey

Brig. Gen George H. Steuart



Brig. Gen Bradley T. Johnson

1st Maryland officers that formed 2nd Maryland



*Capt. James Herbert
Co.D*

*Capt. W.W. Goldsborough
Co.A*

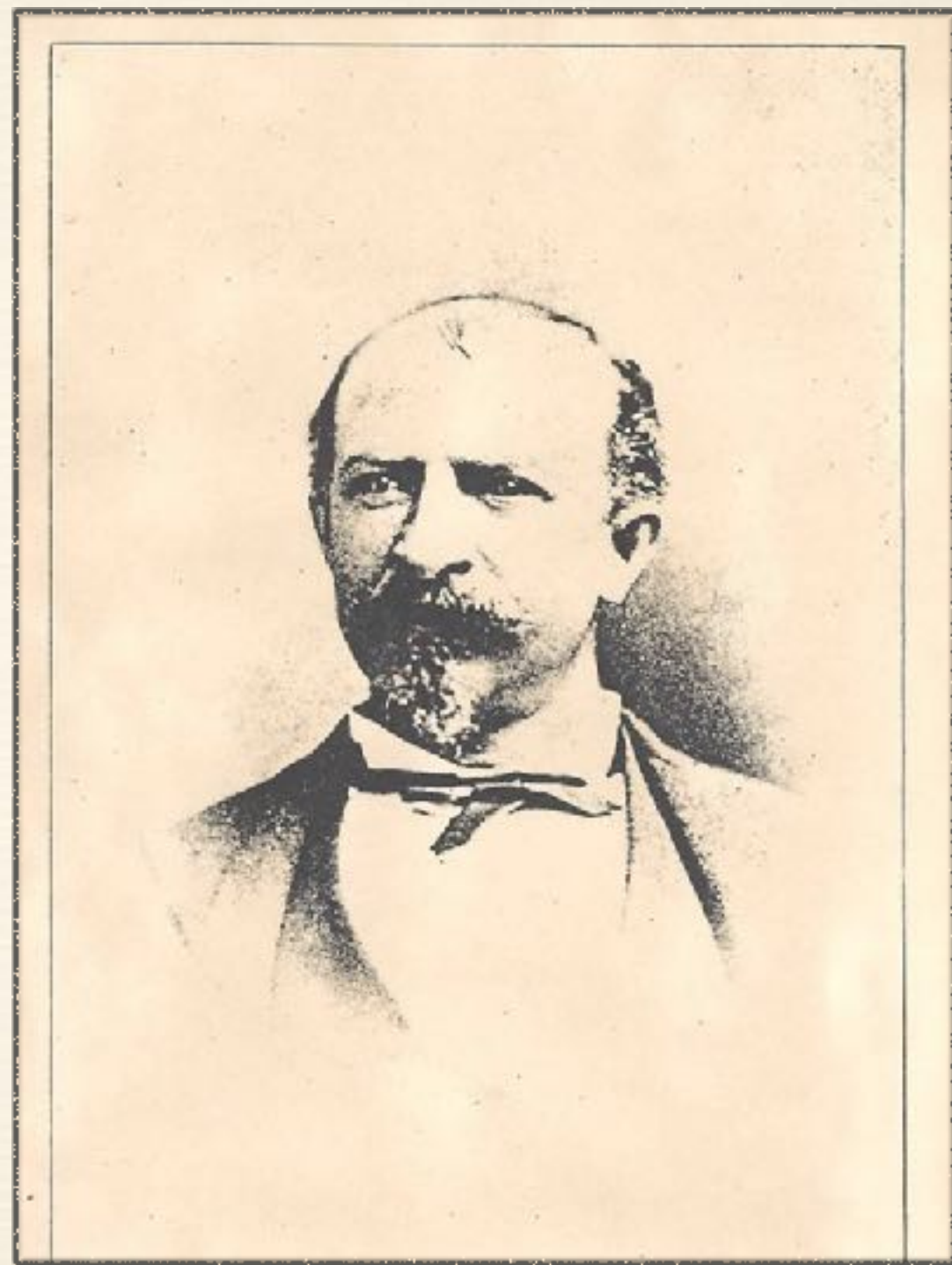


*Capt. William Murray
Co.H*

Second Maryland Infantry



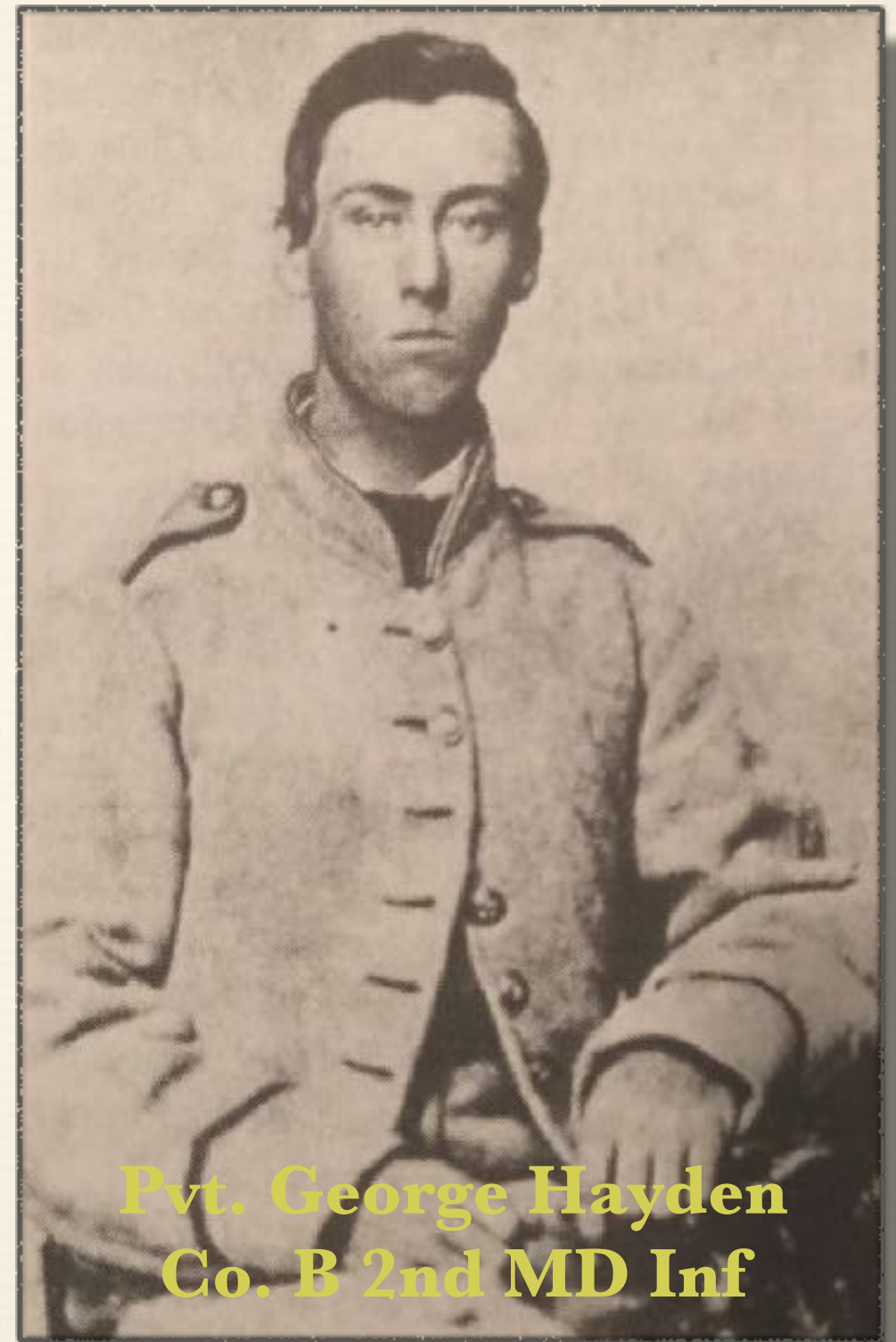
1862-1865



The Muster

Reforming

After the 1st Maryland Infantry Regiment disbanded upon the completion of their one year service contract in August 1862, some of the survivors began to create companies in Richmond to form another “All Maryland” Infantry unit. Very quickly two companies were mustered into service.



Pvt. George Hayden
Co. B 2nd MD Inf

Companies A & B

The two companies formed were designated Company A & Company B. The Commander of Company A was Capt. William H. Murray (formerly Captain of Co.H 1st MD Inf Regt). The Commander of Company B was Capt. James P. Crane (formerly Captain of Co.G 59th Va. Inf and Drillmaster to Gen. Wise in Richmond)



Capt. William Murray
Co.A



Capt. James P. Crane
Co.B

Companies A & B

After muster, both Companies A & B were uniformed, equipped, and armed in Richmond. From research and documentation, both companies were initially issued the RD1 style jacket with matching trousers.

*RD1 is a modern term used by historians to describe a definitive style of jacket. The uniforms were grey in color with black piping.



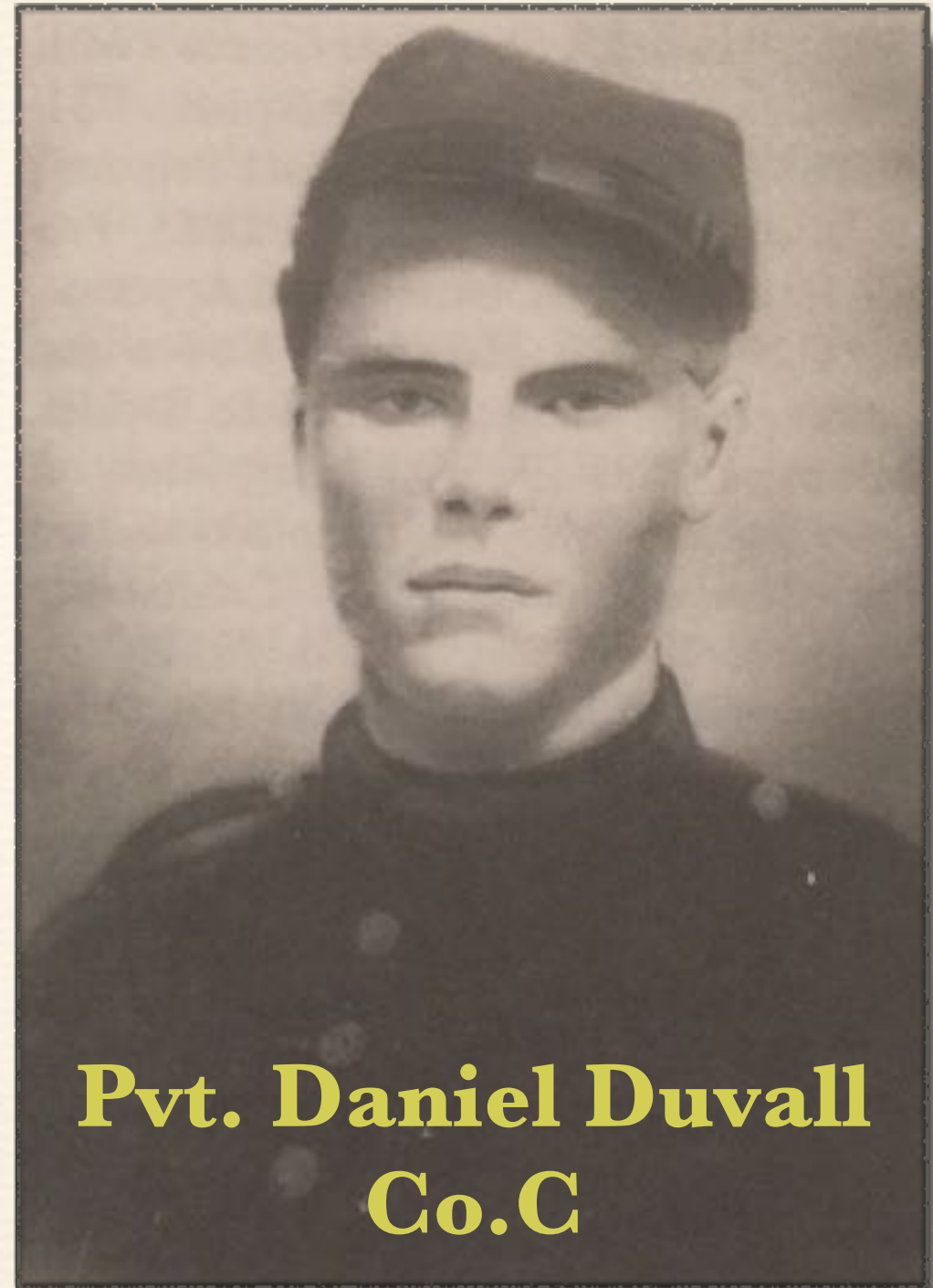
Pvt. John Hayden
Co.B



Pvt. Alexander Murray
Co.A

Companies C, D, E, and F

In late August, more Marylanders began to enlist. As the new Companies formed, Companies A&B were sent to Winchester, Va. The new formations in Richmond became Companies C, D, E, and F.



Pvt. Daniel Duvall
Co. C

Companies C, D, E, and F

The new companies were formed in Richmond but did not officially muster nor receive uniforms and weapons until they arrived in Winchester to join with Companies A & B already there. The new Company Commanders are as follows:

- Co.C: Capt. James Herbert
- Co.D: Capt. Joseph McAleer
- Co.E: Capt. John W. Torsch
- Co.F: Capt. A.J. Gwynn



Capt. James Herbert
Co.C
(Formerly commander
of Co.D 1st MD Inf Regt)

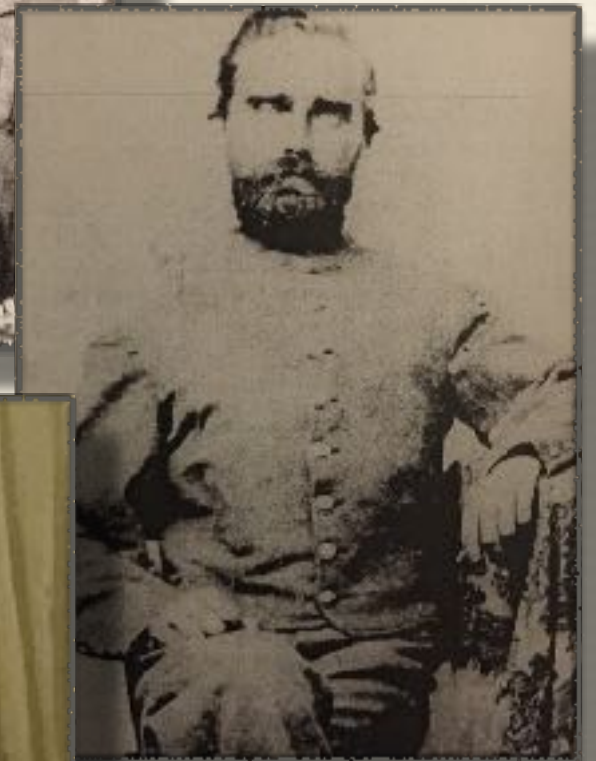


Capt. John W. Torsch
Co.E
(Formerly Lieutenant
of Co.B 21st Va Inf Regt)

Companies C, D, E, and F

Companies C, D, E, and F arrived in Winchester on September 28, 1862. Companies C, D, and E officially mustered into service. Company F mustered the following day. The men were issued uniforms, gear, and weapons at this time. The Marylanders were under the commutation issue system.

*These companies were initially issued commutation RD2 or RD3 style jackets and matching trousers made from imported English Army Cloth



1st Maryland Infantry Battalion

The new Maryland Companies did not have enough men to be designated a “Regiment”. They were named the 1st Maryland Infantry Battalion. The Battalion rated a Major as ranking leader. Capt. James Herbert of Co.C was elected as the Major of the new organization. Lt. Ferdinand Duvall was promoted to Captain of Company C.



Maj. James Herbert

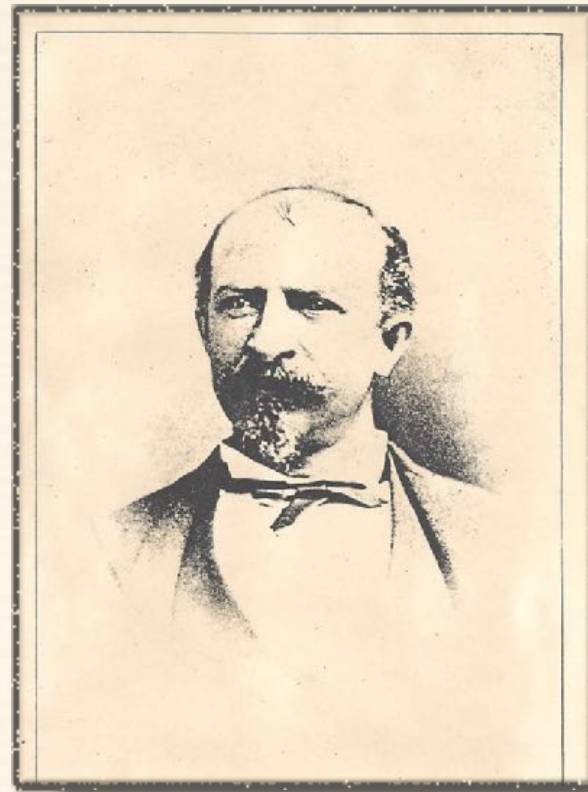
Company G

In December 1862, a new Company of Marylanders arrived raised by former Co.A 1st Maryland Inf Regt, Capt. William W. Goldsborough. This Company was designated "Company G". The 1st Maryland Infantry Battalion now numbered 579 officers and men (per roster listed in Goldsborough's Book).



1st Maryland Infantry Battalion

With the addition of Company G, the 1st Maryland Infantry Battalion now rated a Lt.Colonel to command it. James Herbert was elected to the rank of Lt.Colonel and William W. Goldsborough was elected to rank of Major.



Lt.Col. James Herbert

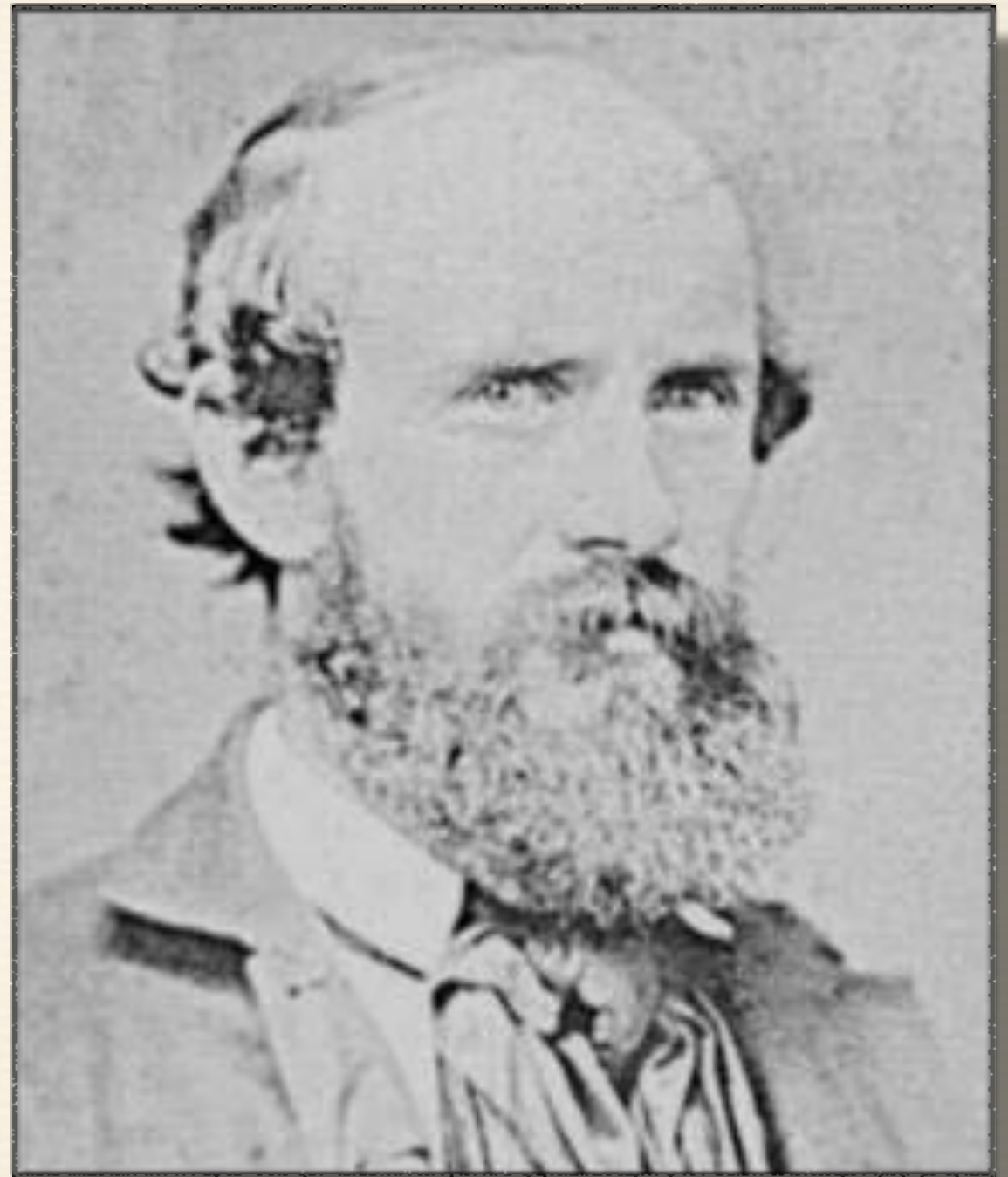


Maj. W.W. Goldsborough

Battles & Commands

1862-1863 Valley Campaign

From September of 1862 to June of 1863, the 1st Maryland Infantry Battalion was under the command of Gen. William “Gumble” Jones in the Shenandoah Valley Theatre of Operations. The Marylanders had minor skirmishes and clashes with Federal units during this time.



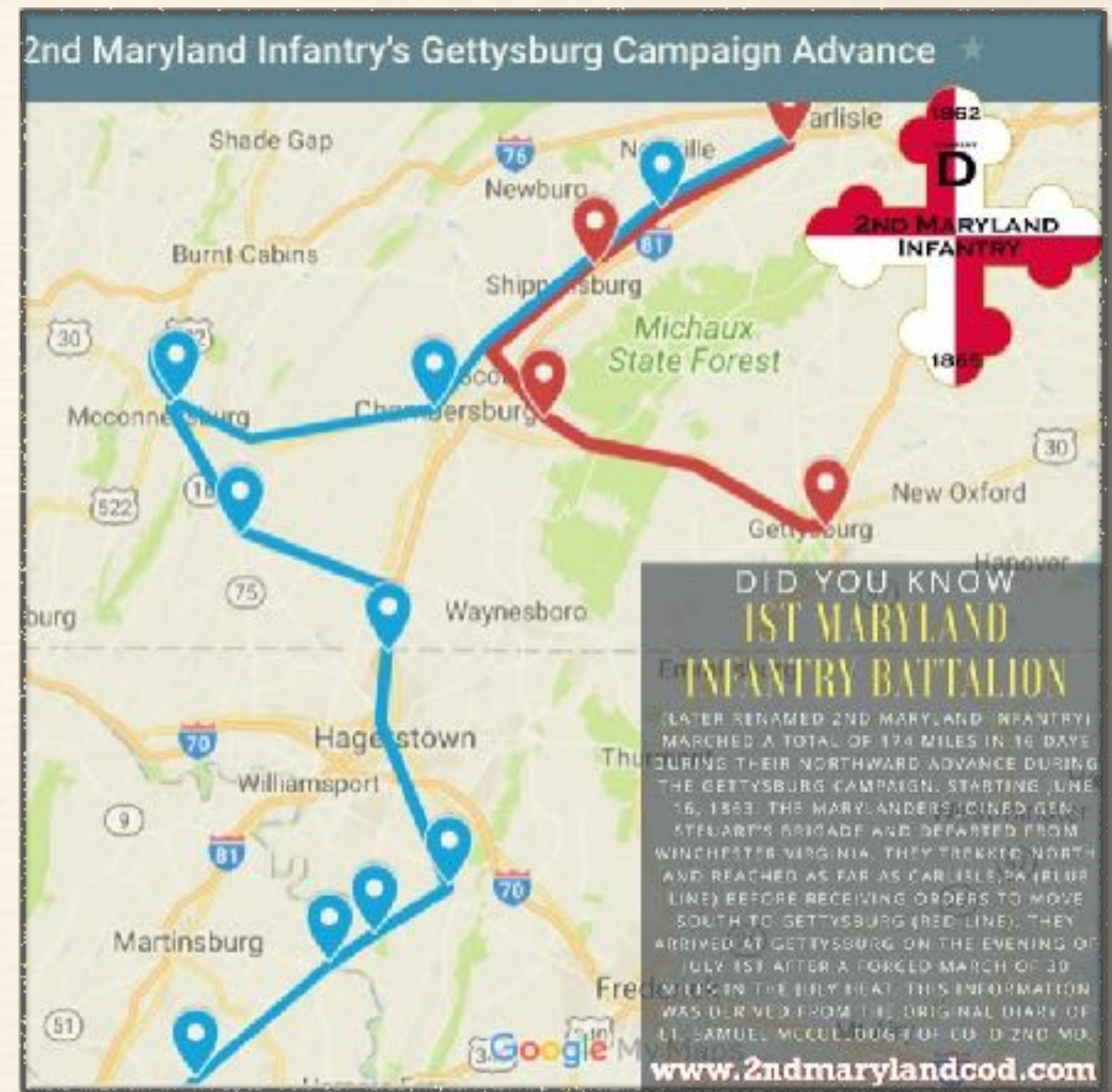
1863 2nd Battle of Winchester

June 10, 1863, the 1st MD Inf Bn received orders to report to area around Winchester, Va under the overall command of Gen. Richard Ewell. The advance North to capture Winchester was set in place. The Maryland Battalion was an “independent” command during this operation as it did not fall under a brigade. The Marylanders came under Federal fire on June 14. The Confederate forces drove the Federal forces back and out of Winchester by end of day on June 15th. The Battalion lost 2 killed, 8 wounded, and 1 POW.



Gettysburg Campaign

On June 16, 1863, the Maryland Battalion was assigned to the Brigade commanded by Marylander Brig.Gen. George H. Steuart (former commander of the 1st MD Inf Regt.). The Gettysburg Campaign began on this day for Steuart's Brigade as they marched North.



Gettysburg: July 2, 1863

During the afternoon of July 2, the men of Johnson's Division were under orders to move to Culp's Hill and begin their attack. Steuart's Brigade pressed up the slopes of hill. They captured the lower earthworks constructed by the Federals. Lt.Col. Herbert was badly wounded leading the advance.



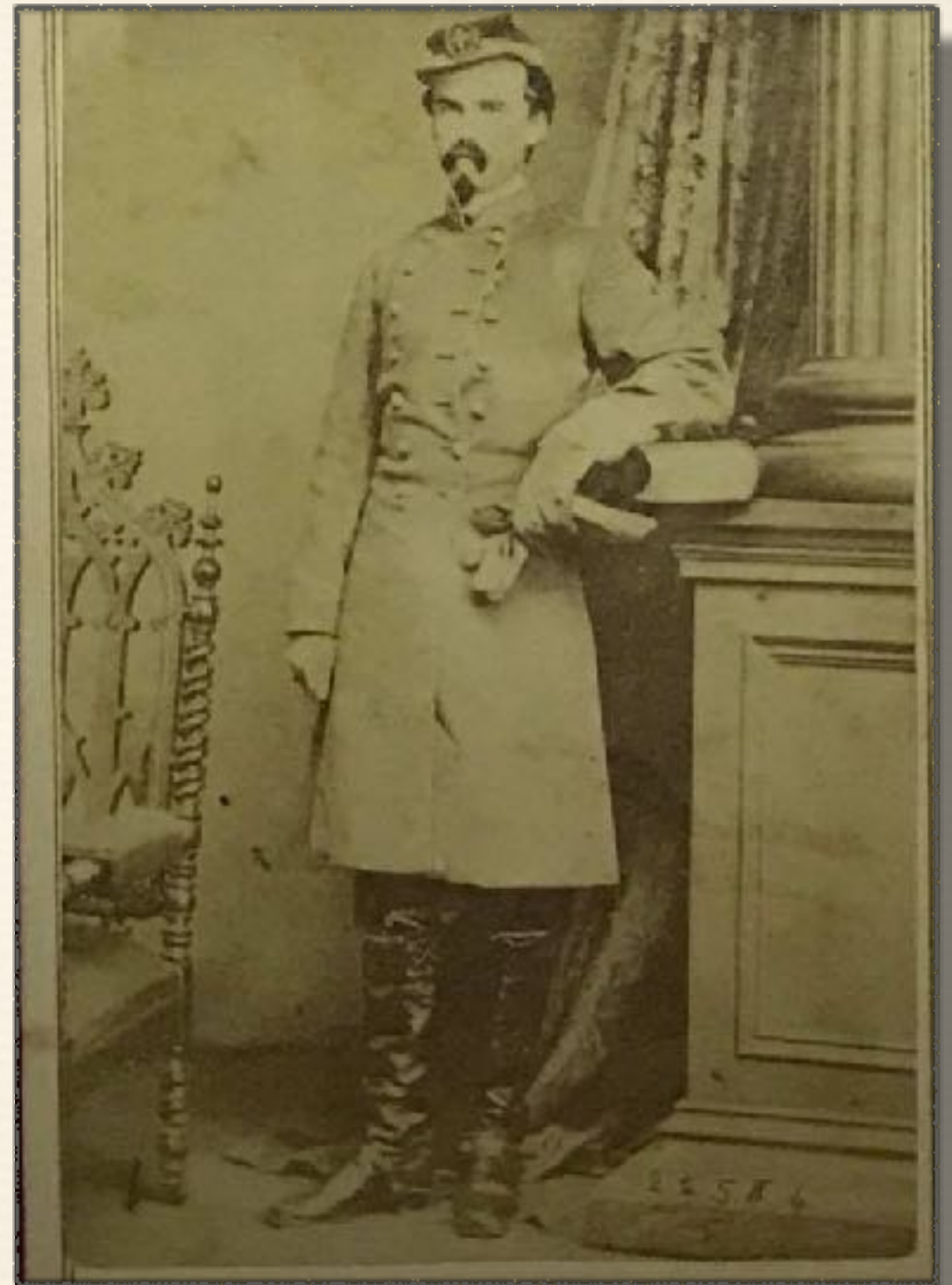
Gettysburg: July 3, 1863

Maj. W.W. Goldsborough assumed command of 1st MD Inf Bn. Steuart's Brigade received orders to move perpendicular and reform to attack. The order was to advance in hopes of breaking the Federal line. Maj. Goldsborough repositioned a few companies to have senior companies on flanks. Capt. Murray was given command of the right flank of the battalion while Maj. Goldsborough took command of the far left flank. Gen. Steuart ordered the men to fix bayonets. Then at 10 am, Steuart commanded "At the double quick; forward... March!" The Battalion was mauled by shot and shell. They reached only feet from the Federal line when the command to withdraw was given. Many Marylanders were left on the field dead or wounded. Cap. William Murray was killed on feet from the Federal line. Maj. Goldsborough was seriously wounded. The Marylanders lost 38 killed in action, 55 dying of wounds after battle, 86 wounded, and 19 prisoners of war. The survivors retreated back to Virginia with rest of Gen. Lee's Army.



The Maryland Line

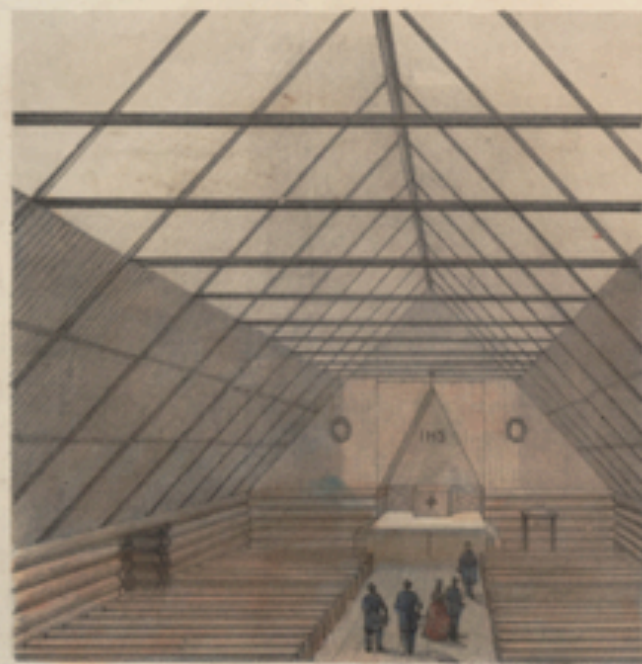
The Battalion was now led by Capt. James P. Crane. The 1st MD Bn remained in Steuart's Brigade until receiving orders at end of October 1863 to report to the command of Marylander Col. Bradley T. Johnson located at Hanover Junction, Va. The Battalion arrived on Nov 1, 1863. They were joined by 1st and 2nd Maryland Cavalry & the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Maryland Artillery. The "all" Maryland units were placed under the command of Col. Johnson by order of the War Department. The 1st Maryland Infantry Battalion was renamed as the 2nd Maryland Infantry (as to not be confused with the early war service record of the 1st Maryland Infantry Regiment). A newly raised company joined 2nd Maryland Infantry. This company was designated Company H. It was comprised of some Marylanders but mostly Virginians.



CAMP ST. MARY'S.



WINTER QUARTERS OF THE MARYLAND LINE - NEAR HANOVER JUNCTION, VA., JANUARY, 1864.



BRIGADE CHURCH.
Interior View from the Gallery.



GUARD MOUNTING AT BRIGADE HD QRS.



CAVALRY HD QRS.

James. R. Houbart N. N. Goldsborough
Lt Col 2nd Md Inf Major 2nd Md Infantry

Madley T. Johnson
Co. E. Candy. Md. Line

Majorcy Brown Robt Smith
Lt Col 1st Md Cav Maj. 1st Md. Cav.

M. H. Gifford Capt
Batt Light Artillery

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 1. Maj. G. B. Hyde, Brig Geny | 11. Dr. J. T. Johnson, Brig Surg |
| 2. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl | 12. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl |
| 3. Capt. G. W. Smith, Adj Genl | 13. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl |
| 4. Maj. E. S. Johnson, Pres. Sec of Richmond | 14. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl |
| 5. Capt. G. B. Hyde, Brig Geny | 15. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl |
| 6. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl | 16. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl |
| 7. Capt. G. B. Hyde, Brig Geny | 17. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl |
| 8. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl | 18. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl |
| 9. Capt. G. B. Hyde, Brig Geny | 19. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl |
| 10. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl | 20. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl |

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|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Brigade Church | 11. Capt. J. L. M. West, Co. D | 21. Capt. G. B. Hyde, Brig Geny |
| 2. Lt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl | 12. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl | 22. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl |
| 3. Lt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl | 13. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl | 23. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl |
| 4. Capt. J. P. Crane, Co. B | 14. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl | 24. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl |
| 5. Capt. J. L. M. West, Co. D | 15. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl | 25. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl |
| 6. Dr. W. Nichols, Regt Genl | 16. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl | 26. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl |
| 7. Capt. J. L. M. West, Co. D | 17. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl | 27. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl |
| 8. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl | 18. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl | 28. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl |
| 9. Capt. J. L. M. West, Co. D | 19. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl | 29. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl |
| 10. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl | 20. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl | 30. Capt. W. Nichols, Regt Genl |

Cold Harbor

The Maryland Line was short lived. Col. Johnson and the Maryland Cavalry was detailed to Gen. Jubal Early. The 2nd Maryland Infantry was detailed as reserve to Echol's Brigade of Gen. Breckinridge's Division during the Battle of Cold Harbor on June 3, 1864. 2nd Maryland numbered slightly over 400 men, many having returned after being wounded at Gettysburg the year before. Federal troops of Gen. Hancock's Corps broke through the Confederate, but the 2nd Marylanders charged forward plugging the hole and plugging the hole. The Marylanders lost 9 killed and 38 wounded.



Siege of Petersburg

After Cold Harbor, the 2nd Maryland Infantry moved to the trenches of Petersburg with the rest of Gen. Lee's Army. Capt. Crane, now promoted to Major, was hospitalized. Capt. Ferdinand Duvall assumed command of 2nd Maryland Infantry until being wounded in October. Capt. Joseph McAleer assumed command until February 15, 1865 when he resigned. Capt. John Torsch then became 2nd Maryland Infantry's last field commander. During the siege at Petersburg, the Marylanders fought at Weldon R.R., Peebles Farm, Squirrel Level Road, and Hatcher's Run. During these battles, they lost 30 killed, 90 wounded, and 170 POWs.



Breakthrough and Appomattox

The Federals broke through the thin Confederate lines forcing the Army of Northern Virginia to retreat from Petersburg. From April 3, to April 9, 1865 2nd Maryland Infantry lost another 53 men who were captured. On April 9, 1865, 2nd Maryland Infantry surrendered along with the remainder of Gen. Lee's Army. Only 65 officers and men remained of 2nd Maryland Infantry to surrender.





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